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An International Journal of Environmental Medicine
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Volume 7, 1974



ACADEMIC PRESS
New York and London

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CONTENTS OF VOLUME 7

NUMBER 1, FEBRUARY

A. VAN AS AND I. WEBSTER. The Morphology of Mucus in Mammalian Pulmonary Airways	1
JOSEPH D. BRAIN, PETER A. VALBERG, SERGEI P. SOROKIN, AND WILLIAM C. HINDS. An Iron Oxide Aerosol Suitable for Animal Exposures	13
P. J. LAWThER, A. G. F. BROOKS, P. W. LORD, AND R. E. WALLER. Day-to-Day Changes in Ventilatory Function in Relation to the Environment. Part I. Spirometric Values	27
P. J. LAWThER, A. G. F. BROOKS, P. W. LORD, AND R. E. WALLER. Day-to-Day Changes in Ventilatory Function in Relation to the Environment. Part II. Peak Expiratory Flow Values	41
JUNKO MATSUBARA-KHAN. Compartmental Analysis for the Evaluation of Biological Half-Lives of Cadmium and Mercury in Mouse Organs . .	54
PEDDRICK WEIS AND JUDITH S. WEIS. DDT Causes Changes in Activity and Schooling Behavior in Goldfish	68
G. A. NEVILLE AND M. BERLIN. Identification and Biotransformation of Organomercurial Compounds in Living Systems. A Review of Current Understanding	75
S. SKERFVING, K. HANSSON, C. MANGS, J. LINDSTEN, AND N. RYMAN. Methylmercury-Induced Chromosome Damage in Man	83
JAMES H. STEBBINGS, JR. Chronic Respiratory Disease Among Nonsmokers in Hagerstown, Maryland. V. Age at Onset of Hay Fever and Pulmonary Function in Later Life	99
T. A. KILROE-SMITH. Peroxidative Action of Quartz in Relation to Membrane Lysis	109
ANNOUNCEMENTS	117

NUMBER 2, APRIL

W. J. PARKER. Physical Modeling of the Lower Atmosphere with Incipient Cloud Formation	119
A. D. SLONIM. Stages in the Establishment of Physiological Adaptations in Nature and in the Laboratory: A Review	122
LOUIS W. CHANG AND SEIYA YAMAGUCHI. Ultrastructural Changes in the Liver After Long-Term Diet of Mercury-Contaminated Tuna	133
RUTH THOMSON, IAN WEBSTER, AND T. A. KILROE-SMITH. The Metabolism of Benzo (a) Pyrene in Rat Liver Microsomes: The Effect of Asbestos-Associated Metal Ions and pH	149
DAVID K. HYSELL, WELLINGTON MOORE, JR., JERRY F. STARA, ROBERT MILLER, AND KIRBY I. CAMPBELL. Oral Toxicity of Methylcyclopentadienyl Manganese Tricarbonyl (MMT) in Rats	158
JOHN A. ELDER AND ARDEN R. GAUFIN. The Toxicity of Three Mercurials to <i>Pteronarcys californica</i> Newport, and Some Possible Physiological Effects Which Influence the Toxicities	169

SAMUEL MILHAM, JR. AND TERRENCE STRONG. Human Arsenic Exposure in Relation to a Copper Smelter	176
B. HOLMBERG AND T. MALMFORS. The Cytotoxicity of Some Organic Solvents	183
B. HOLMBERG, I. JAKOBSON, AND T. MALMFORS. The Effect of Organic Solvents on Erythrocytes During Hypotonic Hemolysis	193
S. W. HWANG AND LEWIS S. SCHANKER. Absorption of Carbaryl from the Lung and Small Intestine of the Rat	206
SIDNEY A. KATZ, DONALD M. SCHEINER, ARNOLD W. KLEIN, AND M. H. SAMITZ. Chromium Complexes with Proteins and Mucopolysaccharides and Their Relationship to Chromium Allergy in Sensitized Guinea Pigs	212
R. L. SINGHAL, S. KACEW, AND D. J. B. SUTHERLAND. Metabolic Alterations in Liver and Kidney Following Chronic Methyl Mercury Treatment and Withdrawal	220
A. PHARO GAGGE AND RICHARD R. GONZALEZ. Physiological and Physical Factors Associated with Warm Discomfort in Sedentary Man	230
KINGSLEY KAY. Occupational Cancer Risks for Pesticide Workers	243
ANNOUNCEMENTS	272

NUMBER 3, JUNE

VIRGINIA C. FOLTZ AND ROBERT FUERST. Mutation Studies with <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> Exposed to Four Fluorinated Hydrocarbon Gases	275
SHIRLEY GARRETT AND ROBERT FUERST. Sex-Linked Mutations in <i>Drosophila</i> after Exposure to Various Mixtures of Gas Atmospheres	286
S. E. HRUDEY, R. PERRY, AND R. A. WELLINGS. The Composition of Residues from Municipal Refuse Incinerators	294
BOGUSLAW MACZYNSKI AND BARBABA FALKIEWICZ. Effect of Various Ionizing Factors on the Concentration of Condensation Nuclei in the Air of an Office Room	303
C. K. CHOW, C. J. DILLARD, AND A. L. TAPPEL. Glutathione Peroxidase System and Lysozyme in Rats Exposed to Ozone or Nitrogen Dioxide	311
B. GOLDSTEIN, I. WEBSTER, AND A. VAN AS. The Use of Nonhuman Primates in Pneumoconiosis and Other Industrial Disease Research	320
A. MORGAN. Adsorption of Human Serum Albumin by Asbestiform Minerals and Its Application to the Measurement of Surface Areas of Dispersed Samples of Chrysotile	330
BIRGITTA BERGLUND, ULF BERGLUND, AND THOMAS LINDVALL. A Psychological Detection Method in Environmental Research	342
GAURANGAKUMAR DAS AND V. C. RONECKLES. Effects of Bisulfite on Metabolic Development in Synchronous <i>Chlorella pyrenoidosa</i>	353
D. J. HANSEN, P. R. PARRISH, AND J. FORESTER. Aroclor 1016: Toxicity to and Uptake by Estuarine Animals	363
SATYA V. CHANDRA, P. K. SETH, AND J. K. MANKESHWAR. Manganese Poisoning: Clinical and Biochemical Observations	374
C. S. DIERINGER AND J. A. THOMAS. Effects of Carbaryl on the Metabolism of Androgens in the Prostate and Liver of the Mouse	381

CESARE MALTONI AND GIUSEPPE LEFEMINE. Carcinogenicity Bioassays of Vinyl Chloride. I. Research Plan and Early Results	384
ANNOUNCEMENT	406
AUTHOR INDEX	407

Subject Index for Volume 7 will appear in the December issue as part of a cumulative index for the year 1974.

Growth and Ecology of Fish Populations

A. H. Weatherley

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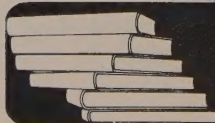
Growth in fish and its ecological implications has not been evaluated and described in as much detail as other problems related to fish population dynamics. Yet growth is a major connecting link to all these problems.

The author believes that a detailed understanding of growth in fish, its sensitive responsiveness to changes in temperature, habitat, food supply, etc., can provide a valuable background knowledge to the ecology of fish populations and can furthermore make a worthwhile addition to general growth biology of animals. The book suggests simple models and schemes for the dissection of such growth processes as production, the relation between growth rate of individual fish and age-specific fecundity, and predator/prey situations. It also outlines possible applications of systems analysis for successful attacks on growth problems in the context of populations.

This book treats the subject of fish populations from the various standpoints of the ecologist rather than from the more specialized ones of the fishery biologist. In this it is unusual and should appeal not only to fish population biologists but also to animal ecologists in general.

1972, 300 pp., \$13.50

AP4022



Academic Press

NEW YORK AND LONDON

111 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10003

24/28 OVAL ROAD, LONDON NW1

